HYMNS

FOR THE

NATIVITY

OF

OUR LORD.

By John and Charles Wesley.

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HYMNS

FOR THE

NATIVITY, &c.

HYMN I.

1 YE simple Men of Heart sincere,
Shepherds who watch your Flocks by Night,
Start not to see an Angel near,
Nor tremble at this glorious Light.

2 An Herald from the Heavenly King
I come your every Fear to chace;
Good Tidings of great Joy I bring,
Great Joy to all the fallen Race!

3 To you is born on this glad Day,
A Saviour by our Hoſt ador'd;
Our GOD in *Bethlehem* ſurvey,
Make haſte to worſhip CHRIST the LORD.

4 By this the Saviour of Mankind,
The Incarnate GOD ſhall be diſplay'd,
The Babe ye wrap'd in Swaths ſhall find,
And humbly in a Manger laid.

HYMN II.

1 YE heavenly Choir,
Aſſiſt me to ſing,
And ſtrike the ſoft Lyre,
And honour our King,
His mighty Salvation
Demands all our Praiſe,
Our beſt Adoration,
And loftieſt Lays.

2 All Glory to GOD,
Who ruleth on high,
And now hath beſtow'd,
And ſent from the Sky
CHRIST JESUS, the Saviour,
Poor Mortals to bleſs;
The Pledge of his Favour,
The Seal of his Peace.

HYMN III.

1 ANGELS ſpeak, let Man give ear,
Sent from high,
They are nigh,
And forbid our Fear.

2 News they bring us of Salvation,
Sounds of Joy
To employ
Every Tongue and Nation.

3 Welcome Tidings! to retrieve us
From our Fall,
Born for all,
CHRIST is born to ſave us.

4 Born his Creatures to reſtore,
Abject Earth
Sees his Birth,
Whom the Heavens adore.

5 Wrap'd in Swaths th'Immortal Stranger
Man with Men
We have ſeen,
Lying in a Manger.

6 All to GOD's Free Grace is owing;
We are his
Witneſſes,
Poor and nothing knowing.

7 Simple Shepherds Us he raiſes,
Bids us ſing
CHRIST the King,
And ſhew forth his Praiſes.

8 We have ſeen the King of Glory,
We proclaim
CHRIST his Name,
And record his Story.

9 Sing we with the Hoſt of Heaven,
Reconcil'd
By a Child
Who to us is given.

10 Glory be to GOD the Giver,
Peace and Love
From above
Reign on Earth for ever.

HYMN IV.

1 GLORY be to GOD on high,
And Peace on Earth deſcend;
GOD comes down: He bows the Sky;
He ſhews himſelf our Friend!
GOD th'Inviſible *appears*,
GOD the Bleſt, the great I AM
Sojourns in this Vale of Tears,
And JESUS is his Name.

Him

2 Him the Angels all ador'd
Their Maker and their King:
Tidings of their humbled LORD
They now to Mortals bring:
Emptied of his Majeſty,
Of his dazling Glories ſhorn,
Beings Source *begins to Be*,
And GOD Himſelf is BORN!

3 See th'Eternal Son of GOD
A Mortal Son of Man,
Dwelling in an earthly Clod,
Whom Heaven cannot contain!
Stand amaz'd ye Heavens at this!
See the LORD of Earth and Skies!
Humbled to the Duſt He is,
And in a Manger lies!

4 We the Sons of Men rejoice,
The Prince of Peace proclaim,
With Heaven's Hoſt lift up our Voice,
And ſhout IMMANUEL's Name,
Knees and Hearts to Him we bow;
Of our Fleſh, and of our Bone,
JESUS is our Brother now,
And GOD is all our own!

HYMN V.

1 LET Earth and Heaven combine,
Angels and Men agree
To praiſe in Songs Divine,
Th'Incarnate Deity,
Our GOD contracted to a Span,
Incomprehenſibly made Man.

He

2 He laid his Glory by,
He wrap'd Him in our Clay,
Unmark'd by Human Eye
The latent Godhead lay;
Infant of Days He here became:
And bore the mild IMMANUEL's Name.

3 See in that Infant's Face
The Depths of Deity,
And labour while ye gaze
To ſound the Myſtery:
In vain; ye Angels gaze no more,
But fall, and ſilently adore.

4 Unſearchable the Love
That hath the Saviour brought,
The Grace is far above
Or Men or Angels Thought;
Suffice for Us, that GOD we know,
Our GOD is manifeſt below.

5 He deigns in Fleſh t'appear,
Wideſt Extremes to join,
To bring our Vileneſs near,
And make us all Divine:
And we the Life of GOD ſhall know,
For GOD is manifeſt below.

6 Made perfect firſt in Love,
And ſanctify'd by Grace,
We ſhall from Earth remove,
And ſee his glorious Face;
His Love ſhall then be fully ſhew'd,
And Man ſhall all be loſt in GOD.

HYMN VI.

1 JOIN all ye joyful Nations
Th'acclaiming Hoſts of Heaven,
This happy Morn
A Child is born,
To us a Son is given:

The Meſſenger and Token
Of GOD's Eternal Favour,
GOD hath ſent down
To us his Son,
An univerſal Saviour!

2 The wonderful Meſſias,
The Joy of every Nation,
JESUS his Name,
With GOD the ſame,
The LORD of all Creation:

The Counſellor of Sinners,
Almighty to deliver,
The Prince of Peace,
Whoſe Love's Increaſe
Shall reign in Man for ever.

3 Go ſee the King of Glory,
Diſcern the Heavenly Stranger,
So poor and mean,
His Court an Inn,
His Cradle is a Manger.

Who from his Father's Boſom,
But now for us deſcended,
Who built the Skies,
On Earth He lies,
With only Beaſts attended.

Whom

4 Whom all the Angels worſhip,
Lies hid in human Nature;
Incarnate ſee
The Deity,
The Infinite Creator:

See the ſtupendous Bleſſing
Which GOD to us hath given!
A Child of Man,
In Length a Span,
Who fills both Earth and Heaven.

5 Gaze on that helpleſs Object
Of endleſs Adoration!
Thoſe Infant Hands
Shall burſt our Bands,
And work out our Salvation:

Strangle the crooked Serpent,
Deſtroy his Works for ever,
And open ſet
The Heavenly Gate
To every true Believer.

6 'Till then thou holy JESUS,
We humbly bow before Thee,
Our Treaſures bring
To ſerve our King,
And joyfully adore Thee:

To Thee we gladly render
Whate'er thy Grace hath given,
'Till Thou appear
In Glory here,
And take us up to Heaven.

HYMN VII.

1 ALL Glory to God, And Peace upon Earth
Be publiſh'd abroad At Jesus's Birth;
The forfeited Favour Of Heaven we find
Reſtor'd in the Saviour And Friend of Mankind.

2 Then let us behold Messias the Lord,
By Prophets foretold, By Angels ador'd,
Our God's Incarnation With Angels proclaim,
And publiſh Salvation In Jesus's Name.

3 Our newly born King By Faith we have ſeen,
And joyfully ſing His Goodneſs to Men,
That all Men may wonder At what we impart,
And thankfully ponder His Love in their Heart.

4 What mov'd the Moſt High So greatly to ſtoop?
He comes from the Sky Our Souls to lift up;
That Sinners forgiven Might ſinleſs return
To God and to Heaven; Their Maker is born.

5 Immanuel's Love Let Sinners confeſs,
Who comes from above, To bring us his Peace:
Let every Believer His Mercy adore,
And praiſe Him for ever, When Time is no more.

HYMN VIII.

1 AWAY with our Fears!
The Godhead appears
In Christ reconcil'd,
The Father of Mercies in Jesus the Child.

He

2 He comes from above,
In manifeſt Love,
The Deſire of our Eyes,
The meek Lamb of GOD in a Manger he lies.

3 At IMMANUEL's Birth
What a Triumph on Earth!
Yet could it afford
No better a Place for its Heavenly LORD!

4 The Antient of Days
To redeem a loſt Race,
From his Glory comes down,
Self-humbled to carry us up to a Crown.

5 Made Fleſh for our Sake,
That we might partake
The Nature Divine,
And again in his Image, his Holineſs ſhine.

6 An Heavenly Birth
Experience on Earth,
And riſe to his Throne,
And live with our JESUS eternally one.

7 Then let us believe
And gladly receive
The Tidings they bring,
Who publiſh to Sinners their Saviour and King.

8 And while we are here
Our King ſhall appear,
His Spirit impart,
And form his full Image of Love in our Heart.

HYMN

HYMN IX.

1 FATHER, our Hearts we lift
Up to thy gracious Throne,
And bleſs Thee for the precious Gift
Of thine Incarnate Son;
The Gift unſpeakable
We thankfully receive,
And to the World thy Goodneſs tell,
And to thy Glory live.

2 JESUS, the holy Child,
Doth by his Birth declare,
That GOD and Man are reconcil'd,
And one in Him we are:
Salvation thro' his Name
To all Mankind is given,
And loud his Infant-Cries proclaim
A Peace 'twixt Earth and Heaven.

3 A Peace on Earth He brings,
Which never more ſhall end;
The LORD of Hoſts, the King of Kings,
Declares himſelf our Friend,
Aſſumes our Fleſh and Blood,
That we his Sp'rit may gain;
The everlaſting Son of GOD,
The mortal Son of Man.

4 His Kingdom from above
He doth to us impart,
And pure Benevolence and Love
O'erflow the faithful Heart:
Chang'd in a Moment we
The ſweet Attraction find,
With open Arms of Charity
Embracing all Mankind.

5 O might they all receive
The new-born Prince of Peace,
And meekly in his Spirit live,
And in his Love increaſe!
'Till He convey us home
Cry every Soul aloud,
Come, Thou Deſire of Nations, come,
And take us up to GOD!

HYMN X.

1 COME, Thou long-expected JESUS,
Born to ſet thy People free,
From our Fears and Sins relieve us,
Let us find our Reſt in Thee:
Iſrael's Strength and Conſolation,
Hope of all the Earth Thou art,
Dear Deſire of every Nation,
Joy of every longing Heart.

2 Born thy People to deliver,
Born a Child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us for ever,
Now thy gracious Kingdom bring;
By thy own eternal Spirit,
Rule in all our Hearts alone,
By thy all-ſufficient Merit
Raiſe us to thy glorious Throne.

HYMN XI.

1 LIGHT of thoſe whoſe dreary Dwelling
Borders on the Shades of Death,
Come, and by thy Love's revealing
Diſſipate the Clouds beneath.

The

The new Heav'n and Earth's Creator,
In our deepeſt Darkneſs riſe,
Scattering all the Night of Nature,
Pouring Eye-ſight on our Eyes.

2 Still we wait for thy appearing,
Life and Joy thy Beams impart,
Chaſing all our Fears, and chearing
Every poor benighted Heart:
Come, and manifeſt the Favour
GOD hath for our ranſom'd Race;
Come, Thou univerſal Saviour,
Come, and bring the Goſpel-Grace.

3 Save us in thy great Compaſſion,
O Thou mild pacific Prince,
Give the Knowledge of Salvation,
Give the Pardon of our Sins;
By thine all-reſtoring Merit
Every burden'd Soul releaſe,
Every weary wand'ring Spirit
Guide into thy perfect Peace.

HYMN XII.

1 SING, ye ranſom'd Nations, ſing
Praiſes to our new-born King,
Son of Man our Maker is,
LORD of Hoſts and Prince of Peace.

2 Lo! He lays his Glory by,
Emptied of his Majeſty!
See the GOD who all Things made,
Humbly in a Manger laid.

3 Caſt we off our needleſs Fear,
Boldly to his Church draw near,
JESUS is our Fleſh and Bone,
GOD *with us* is all our own.

4 Let us then with Angels gaze
On our new-born Monarch's Face,
With the Choir celeſtial join'd,
Shout the Saviour of Mankind.

5 Son of Man will He deſpiſe
Man's well-meaning Sacrifice?
No; with condeſcending Grace
He accepts his Creature's Praiſe.

6 Will his Majeſty diſdain
The poor Shepherd's ſimple Strain?
No; for *Iſrael*'s Shepherd He
Loves their artleſs Melody.

7 He will not refuſe the Song
Of the ſtammering Infant's Tongue,
Babes He hears humanely mild,
Once Himſelf a little Child.

8 Let us then our Prince proclaim,
Humbly chant IMMANUEL's Name,
Publiſh at his wond'rous Birth,
Praiſe in Heaven, and Peace on Earth!

9 Triumph in our Saviour's Love,
'Till He takes us up above,
All his Majeſty diſplays,
Shews us all his glorious Face.

HYMN XIII.

1 LET Angels and Archangels ſing
The wonderful IMMANUEL's Name,
Adore with us our new-born King,
And ſtill the joyful News proclaim;
All Earth and Heaven be ever join'd
To praiſe the Saviour of Mankind.

2 The everlaſting GOD comes down,
To ſojourn with the Son's of Men;
Without his Majeſty or Crown,
The great INVISIBLE is *ſeen*;
Of all his dazling glorious ſhorn
The everlaſting GOD is born!

3 Angels, behold that Infant's Face,
With rapt'rous Awe the Godhead own,
'Tis all your Heaven on Him to gaze,
And caſt your Crowns before his Throne:
Tho' now He on his Footſtool lies,
Ye know He built both Earth and Skies.

4 By Him into Exiſtence brought,
Ye ſang the all-creating Word;
Ye heard Him call our World from nought;
Again, in Honour of your LORD,
Ye Morning-Stars, your Hymns employ,
And ſhout ye Sons of GOD for Joy.

HYMN XIV.

1 O Aſtoniſhing Grace,
That the reprobate Race
Should be ſo reconcil'd!
What a Wonder of Wonders that GOD is a Child!

2 The Creator of all,
To repair our ſad Fall,
From his Heav'n ſtoops down:
Lays hold of our Nature, and joins to his own.

3 Our IMMANUEL came,
The whole World to redeem,
And incarnated ſhew'd
That Man may again be united to GOD!

4 And ſhall we not hope,
After GOD to wake up,
His Nature to know?
His Nature is ſinleſs Perfection below.

5 To this heavenly Prize,
By Faith let us riſe,
To his Image aſcend,
Apprehended of GOD, let us GOD apprehend.

HYMN XV.

1 ALL-WISE, all-good, Almighty LORD,
JESUS, by higheſt Heaven ador'd,
E'er Time its Courſe began,
How did thy glorious Mercy ſtoop
To take the fallen Nature up,
When Thou Thyſelf wert Man?

2 The eternal God from Heaven came down,
The King of Glory dropt his Crown,
And veil'd his Majeſty;
Empty'd of all but Love He came,
JESUS, I call Thee by thy Name,
Thy Pity bore for me.

3 O holy Child, ſtill let thy Birth
Bring Peace to us poor Worms on Earth,
And Praiſe to GOD on high!
Come, Thou who didſt my Fleſh aſſume,
Now to the abject Sinner come,
And in a Manger lie.

4 Didſt Thou not in thy Perſon join
The Natures human and divine,
That GOD and Man might be
Henceforth inſeparably One;
Haſte then, and make thy Nature known
Incarnated in me.

5 In my weak ſinful Fleſh appear,
O GOD, be manifeſted here,
Peace, Righteouſneſs, and Joy;
Thy Kingdom, LORD, ſet up within
My faithful Heart; and all my Sin,
The Devil's Works deſtroy.

6 I long thy Coming to confeſs
The myſtic Power of Godlineſs,
The Life divine to prove;
The Fulneſs of thy Life to know,
Redeem'd from all my Sins below,
And perfected in Love.

O CHRIST,

7 O CHRIST, my Hope, make known in me
The great, the glorious Myſtery,
The hidden Life impart;
Come, Thou Deſire of Nations, come,
Form'd in a ſpotleſs Virgin's Womb,
A pure believing Heart.

8 Come quickly, deareſt LORD, that I
May own, tho' Antichriſt deny,
Thy Incarnation's Power,
May cry, a Witneſs to my LORD,
"Come in my Fleſh is CHRIST the Word,
"And I can ſin no more!"

HYMN XVI.

1 O MERCY divine
How couldſt Thou incline,
My GOD, to become ſuch an Infant as *mine!*

2 What a Wonder of Grace!
The Antient of Days
Is found in the Likeneſs of *Adam*'s frail Race.

3 He comes from on high,
Who faſhion'd the Sky,
And meekly vouchſafes in a Manger to lie.

4 Our GOD, ever bleſt,
With Oxen doth reſt,
Is nurſt by his Creature, and hangs at the Breaſt.

5 So heavenly mild
His Innocence ſmil'd,
No Wonder the Mother ſhould worſhip the Child.

6 The Angels ſhe knew
Had worſhipp'd Him too,
And ſtill they confeſs Adoration is Due.

7 On Jesus's Face,
With eager amaze,
And Pleaſures extatic the Cherubims gaze.

8 Their newly-born King
Tranſported they ſing,
And Heav'n and Earth with the Triumph doth ring.

9 The Shepherds behold
Him promis'd of old
By Angels attended, by Prophets foretold.

10 The wiſe Men adore,
And bring him their Store,
The rich are permitted to follow the Poor.

11 To the Inn they repair,
To ſee the young Heir,
The Inn is a Palace; for Jesus is there.

12 Who now would be great,
And not rather wait
On Jesus, their Lord, in his humble Eſtate?

13 Like Him would I be,
My Maſter I ſee
In a Stable; a Stable ſhall ſatisfy me.

14 With him I reſide;
The Manger ſhall hide
Mine Honour: The Manger ſhall bury my Pride.

15 And here will I lie,
'Till rais'd up on high,
With Him, on the Croſs, I recover the Sky.

HYMN

HYMN XVII.

1 WHERE is the holy Heav'n-born Child'
Heir of the everlaſting Throne,
Who Heav'n and Earth hath reconcil'd,
And GOD and Man re-join'd in One?

2 Shall we of earthly Kings enquire,
To Courts or Palaces repair?
The Nation's Hope the World's Deſire,
Alas! we cannot find Him there.

3 Shall Learning ſhew the Sinner's Friend,
Or Scribes a Sight of CHRIST afford?
Us to his natal Place they ſend,
But never go to ſee the LORD.

4 We ſearch the outward Church in vain,
They cannot Him we ſeek declare,
They have not found the Son of Man,
Or known the ſacred Name they bear.

5 Then let us turn no more aſide,
But uſe the Light himſelf imparts,
His Spirit is our ſureſt Guide,
His Spirit glimmering in our Hearts.

6 Drawn by his Grace we come from far,
And fix on Heaven our wiſhful Eyes,
That Ray divine, that orient Star
Directs us where the Infant lies.

7 See there! the new-born Saviour ſee,
By Faith diſcern the great I AM;
'Tis He! the Eternal GOD! 'tis He
That bears the mild IMMANUEL's Name.

8 The Prince of Peace on Earth is found,
The Child is born, the Son is given;
Tell it to all the Nations round,
JEHOVAH is come down from Heaven.

9 JEHOVAH is come down to raiſe
His dying Creatures from their Fall,
And all may now receive the Grace
Which brings eternal Life to all.

10 LORD, *We* receive the Grace and thee,
With Joy unſpeakable receive,
And riſe thine open Face to ſee,
And one with GOD for ever live.

HYMN XVIII.

1 ALL Glory to GOD in the Sky,
And Peace upon Earth be reſtor'd!
O JESUS, exalted on high,
Appear our omnipotent LORD:
Who meanly in *Bethlehem* born,
Didſt ſtoop to redeem a loſt Race,
Once more to thy Creatures return,
And reign in thy Kingdom of Grace.

2 When thou in our Fleſh didſt appear,
All Nature acknowledg'd thy Birth;
Aroſe the acceptable Year,
And Heaven was open on Earth:
Receiving its LORD from above,
The World was united to bleſs
The Giver of Concord and Love,
The Prince and the Author of Peace.

O wouldſt

3 O wouldſt Thou again be made known,
Again in thy Spirit deſcend,
And ſet up in each of thine own
A Kingdom that never ſhall end!
Thou only art able to bleſs,
And make the glad Nations obey,
And bid the dire Enmity ceaſe,
And bow the whole World to thy Sway.

4 Come then to thy Servants again,
Who long thy appearing to know,
Thy quiet and peaceable Reign
In Mercy eſtabliſh below:
All Sorrow before Thee ſhall fly,
And Anger and Hatred be o'er,
And Envy and Malice ſhall die,
And Diſcord afflict us no more.

5 No horrid Alarum of War
Shall break our eternal Repoſe,
No Sound of the Trumpet is there,
Where JESUS's Spirit o'erflows:
Appeas'd by the Charms of thy Grace
We all ſhall in Amity join,
And kindly each other embrace,
And love with a Paſſion like Thine.

FINIS.